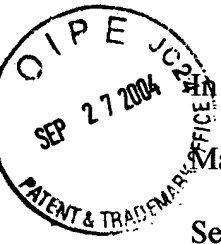


AF EFW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
Matthew M. Morrison et al.) Before the Examiner
Serial No. 09/941,056) Eduardo C. Robert
Filed August 28, 2001) Group Art Unit 3732
MULTI-AXIAL BONE ANCHOR)
SYSTEM) September 23, 2004

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated July 9, 2004, please consider the following.

With this amendment five independent claims and 34 total claims will be in this case.

Applicants have previously paid the claim fees for seven independent claims and 34 total claims.

Therefore, extensions of time or fees are believed not to be due for consideration of this paper. If

any extensions of time are deemed necessary or any additional fees deemed due, please grant

such extensions and charge any such additional fees to Deposit Account 23-3030, but not to

include issue fees.

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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 20231 on September 23, 2004 | |
| _____ Date of Deposit | |
| _____ Christopher A. Brown Name of Registered Representative | |
| _____ Signature | |
| _____ September 23, 2004 Date of Signature | |